

Eagle River Valley Community Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 9, 2022 6:30pm
REGULAR MEETING
Alpenglow Elementary School
MEETING MINUTES – Approved January 11, 2023

Call to order at 6:33pm by Tom Roth. Quorum was established.

Webpage: [Federation of Community Councils](#)

Meeting documents are here: <http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/viewfolder?id=4549>

Meeting Minutes Approval: – Motion by Crystal Kennedy; seconded by Pete Panarese to approve meeting minutes for May 11, 2022, September 14, 2022, and October 12 meetings. Approved by unanimous vote.

Representatives' Reports

Assembly Report – Jamie Allard/Kevin Cross – by Crystal Kennedy for Jamie Allard

- Budget is current priority with Assembly members working on amendments. Topics include Chugiak-Eagle River Cemetery, Chugiak Fire Dept. Contact Jamie or Kevin with feedback on the budget.

New Business:

Expansion of Anchorage Building Safety Service Area to Chugiak/Eagle River – Tom Roth, Crystal Kennedy

- Municipality is considering adding C-ER to the Building Safety Service Area. Must be voter approved.
- Birchwood Community Council Resolution draft was read aloud.
- Chugiak-Eagle River Advisory Board does not support adding C-ER to Anchorage Building Safety Area.
- Motion by Ruth Armstrong; seconded by Tom Freeman to draft resolution similar to Birchwood's. Withdrawn.
- Motion by Crystal Kennedy, seconded by Pete Panarese, to amend Birchwood's draft resolution to include: "Whereas, the Chugiak-Eagle River Advisory Board has passed Resolution 2022-2 objecting to Expansion of Anchorage Building Safety Service Area to Chugiak-Eagle River." Approved by unanimous vote.

Administration's Proposed Amendment to ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) Regulations: Title 21.05.070.D.- Tom Roth

- Rabbit Creek CC email to all community councils was read in part.
 - "The Administration has proposed radical changes to these regulations. The changes would erase the intent that ADUs should support neighborhood stability, neighborhood character, and homeownership. We are concerned that the regulations will backfire..."
- This is a complicated issue that could impact homeowners' opportunity to have extended family members living in ADU.
- Rogers Park CC drafted an amendment to Title 21.05.070.D for consideration.
- The Chugiak-Eagle River Advisory Board has taken a position on this. Decision to table this topic until December meeting.

Chugiak Eagle River Cemetery

- Girdwood Resolution 2022-20 seeks a \$10M municipal-wide bond for development of cemeteries in Girdwood, Chugiak-Eagle River and maintenance to Anchorage Cemetery. Girdwood master plan is completed; CER is still in earlier stage of planning and plans lack adequate detail to proceed with the bond. To be included on April ballot, the bond must be approved by Assembly in January.
- Under Chugiak-Eagle River Advisory Committee, a land study and site selection initiative took place in Chugiak-Eagle River. This was presented to CER Parks & Recreation Board. Location near Hiland Correction Center and ER High School was preferred site.
- We typically don't bond for such things in CER. Our state representatives may seek state funding for our cemetery development. We have flexibility in our mill rate and could do gradual development (vs. bond).
- Discussion postponed until December meeting. Invite Tom Looney to present.

**Wildfire and Egress Kick off Meeting - Art Skoog/ Crystal Kennedy
Alaska Community Forest Council**

- Many community councils and agencies are involved to develop an emergency response plan for a forest fire, including an evacuation plan. Then seek funding.
- Lower risk by thinning trees, removal of dead trees/fuel. Identify areas improvements needed and escape routes.
- Anchorage may adopt Uniform Building Code/Fire Code in the future which would indicate required mitigation.
- Our council area is high risk. Know your neighbors. Have fire emergency plan for your family/neighborhood.
- Consider Fire Behavior Class at a future meeting. Team Rubicon may be able to help clear fire breaks.

ERVCC Board Elections - All passed unanimously.

- Motion: Crystal Kennedy, second: Pete Panarese-Ruth Armstrong and Arlene Rasic to 3 yr-ERVCC Board terms.
- Motion: Pete Panarese, second: Tom Freeman-Julie Jessen as President, Ruth Armstrong as Treasurer and Joy Webb as Secretary for one-year terms.
- Motion: Ruth Armstrong, second: Pete Panarese- Tom Freeman for Federation of Community Councils (1 yr), Pete Panarese for Platting Board (1 yr) and Arlene Rasic for CBERRRSA Alternate(3 yr).

Old Business:

Eagle River Community Patrol - Cliff Cook (by Joy Webb)

- Patrols conducted for 19 hours covering 176 miles in October. Report all incidents to APD.
- Petty crime is creeping up again including late-night car door checkers and stealing gas by drilling hole in gas tank.

Committee Reports:

CBERRRSA (Road Board) - Crystal Kennedy/ Arlene Rasic

- Starner Bridge design to begin this month.
- State of AK is repairing Artillery Rd bridge this month. Ramp to be closed for 30 days.
- Briggs Bridge tunnel still has water pooling after recent repairs. Engineer to re-inspect and State to remediate.

Chugiak/Eagle River Advisory Board - Julie Jessen

Education - Tom Roth

- School budget deficit is \$68M. Intent to close 6 schools including Birchwood Elementary. Building would be used by Eagle Academy. May ask CFO, Jim Anderson, to present at future meeting.

Federation of Community Councils - Tom Freeman

- Mandatory 10-year review of community council boundaries is planned.

Chugiak/Eagle River Parks and Rec Board - Pete Panarese/Ruth Armstrong

- Arctic Group Softball presentation – would like agreement with Parks & Rec regarding ball-park improvements.
- Chugiak Pool will close soon as it is assessed for needed repairs.

Platting - Pete Panarese – nothing to report.

Motion to adjourn at 8:37pm.

Next meeting December 14, 2022, 6:30pm at Alpenglow Elementary School, Multi-purpose room.

ERVCC Board Members (Term Expiration) President: Julie Jessen (2023); Vice President: Tom Roth(2023); Treasurer: Ruth Armstrong (2023); Education: Tom Roth(2023); Parks & Rec: Pete Panarese(2023)/Ruth Armstrong-Alt (2024); C/ER Advisory Board: Julie Jessen (2023)/open-Alt (2024); Platting: Pete Panarese (2023); Federation of Community Councils (FCC): Tom Freeman (2023)/Erik Gunderson-Alt (2025); Road Board: Crystal Kennedy (2025)/Arlene Rasic–Alt (2025); Secretary: Joy Webb (2023)